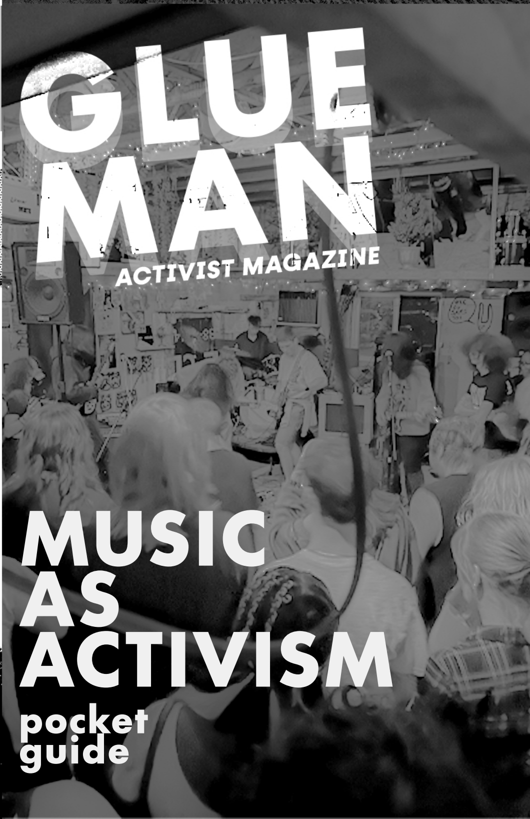


GLUE MAN

ACTIVIST MAGAZINE

MUSIC AS ACTIVISM

pocket guide

THIS MACHINE KILLS FASCISTS
REFUSED
THE SHAPE OF PUNK TO COME
FUGAZI
FUCK TRUMP
FUCK I.C.E.
N.W.A

ON MUSIC WRITING

In your activist message, find a balance between direct messaging and complex artistry.

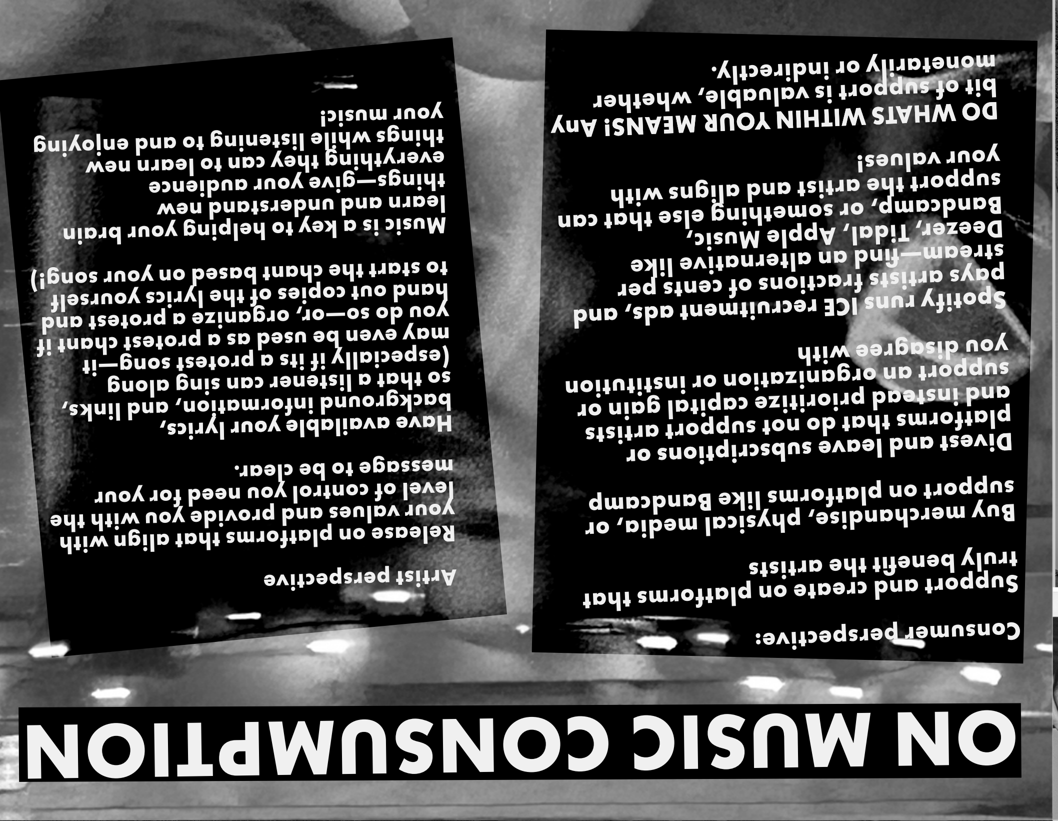
An overly simplistic work will feel condescending…

But an overcomplicated and detached metaphor might lose its meaning

Instead:

"Hide easter eggs" for your audience create metaphors around references to the issues you speak on

Give the audience something to look up online



ON MUSIC CONSUMPTION

Consumer perspective:

Support and create on platforms that truly benefit the artists

Buy merchandise, physical media, or support on platforms like Bandcamp

Divest and leave subscriptions or platforms that do not support artists and instead prioritize capital gain or support an organization or institution you disagree with

Spotify runs ICE recruitment ads, and pays artists fractions of cents per stream—find an alternative like Deezer, Tidal, Apple Music, Bandcamp, or something else that can support the artist and aligns with your values!

DO WHATS WITHIN YOUR MEANS! Any bit of support is valuable, whether monetarily or indirectly.

Artist perspective

Release on platforms that align with your values and provide you with the level of control you need for your message to be clear.

Have available your lyrics, background information, and links, so that a listener can sing along (especially if its a protest song—it may even be used as a protest chant if you do so—or, organize a protest and hand out copies of the lyrics yourself to start the chant based on your song!)

Music is a key to helping your brain learn and understand new things—give your audience everything they can to learn new things while listening to and enjoying your music!

ON MUSIC PERFORMANCE

MELTDOWN
60,000 ARE BACK
400,000 ARE "Coming home"
Bring 'em home
ALIVE… NOW
RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE
EVIL EMPIRE
N.W.A
FUCK THA POLICE
BLACK FLAG
DAMAGED

In performance, speak from the heart, be gracious and appreciative, but stand by your message

Stand by your values—if you believe in nonviolence, don't put up with someone getting hurt at your show. If you don't like the effects of social media—call people out and tell them to put their phones away. Etc.

You can use performance as a form of disobedience or disruption to spread your message as well, but more on that in the Activism by Disobedience zine…

ON MUSIC ACTIVISM

GLUE MAN

ACTIVIST MAGAZINE

EDUCATE DISOBEY CONNECT CREATE

FURTHER READING!